

# **Governor's Commission on Suicide Prevention**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Jan 22, 2018**

1pm – 3pm

Department of Budget and Management  
45 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

### **Commission Members Present:**

Stephen Goldberg, MD	Public Health Services
Dana Stacey Hendrickson	Department of Veterans Affairs
Jennilyn Babcock Landleck	Family Member
Randall Nero, PhD	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
William Frank	Department of Disabilities
Robert Tousey, MBA, JD	Chair & Faith-based Community
Jari Villanueva	Veteran
Holly Wilcox, PhD	Academic Community

### **Commission Member Representative Present:**

Senator Adelaide Eckardt (Representative)  
Michael Ito, Psy.D (Representative) Department of Juvenile Services  
Delegate Eric Luedtke (Representative )

### **Commission Members on Phone:**

Gregory Branch, MD, MBA, CPE	Local Health Officer
Kimberly Chapin Burton	Mental Health Association of Maryland
Amanda Celentano	Maryland Department of Aging
Kenneth Collins	Maryland Addictions Directors Council
Shenetta Malkia-Sapp	Suicide Prevention Group
Jennifer McMahan	Department of Health
Deborah Nelson, PhD	Maryland State Department of Education
Barry Page	Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Admin.

### **Maryland Department of Health & Behavioral Health Administration Staff:**

Janel Cubbage	Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration, Office of Health Promotion and Prevention, Director of Suicide Prevention
Kimberly Hiner	Maryland Department of Health, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (Commission Staff)

Angela Onime

Maryland Department of Health, Office of Minority Health  
and Health Disparities (Intern)

**Public Attendees:**

Brian Campbell  
Joy Ashcraft  
Travis Crow  
Rebecca Lacosta

Maryland National Guard  
MAARNG / substance abuse  
MAARNG – Building Health Military Communities  
UMB/CSMH MD-SPIN Grant

**Welcome & Introductions:**

Commission Chairman Tousey welcomed all attendees to the Commission meeting. All meeting attendees, both in person and on the phone, introduced themselves.

**Approval of November 20, 2017 Minutes:**

Minutes of the last meeting was approved with some minor corrections needed.

**Legislative Update and Discussion:**

Senate Bill 66 - Veteran and Armed Services Member Suicide Reporting has been introduced. The bill is being sponsored by Senator Bryan W. Simonaire. The bill is seeking to require the inclusion on certificate of death information as to whether the deceased was ever a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, if known. The commission does not take positions on bills; however individual members of the commission can express their opinion on the bill.

**September 19, 2018 meeting location:**

September is suicide prevention month. The suggested location for the meeting is to be held on the Eastern shore to provide an opportunity to reach out to the community and create awareness on the Commission's suicide prevention efforts. The meeting will be 2 hours providing an opportunity to include an education and awareness creation session on suicide prevention. A focus area for the education session should be agreed upon as it will feed into the suicide prevention conference. The suicide prevention conference will take place on October 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2018. Focus area suggestions to be considered for education and awareness during the month include: Universal precaution on suicide and suicide risk reduction.

**Further Discussion on Universal Precaution:**

Further discussion took place around the topic area of Universal precaution on suicide and suicide risk reduction. A look at this area is necessary because the numbers of people who end up dying by suicide are far more than those who show signs of suicide. Creating awareness on the need for caregivers and care providers on to practice universal precaution for everyone they meet to assess for behaviors and risk for suicide rather than assessing only individuals in the high-risk group is needed. It is being observed that about half of those who end up dying by suicide never seek help and through the cracks. If universal precaution is observed for everyone, risk reduction strategies can be put in place early and suicide can be prevented. Currently there is a national universal prevention program being implemented in many schools across the nation. In this program school nurses identifies people at risk and works with them on universal suicide prevention activities. However, this is still limited high risk people.

It was suggested that commission members interested in this topic should have a conference call to consider the following areas on this topic

- Value in universal suicide prevention and how it should look like
- Evaluation of current programs and ways to improve them
- Explore training and education options for care givers
- Explore the use of Maryland health exchange such as CRISP for physician notification  
Incorporation of universal suicide prevention into the work place programs
- How to create awareness on the need for Peer to peer program

**Break-Out Discussion on Suicide Prevention Plan:**

Three breakout groups met to review and revise the recommended strategies for the suicide prevention plan.

**Adjournment-** The next meeting dates and venues were discussed and the meeting came to close.